

REFERENCE TITLE: men's health; equal funding

State of Arizona
Senate
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SM 1001

Introduced by
Senator Harper

A MEMORIAL

URGING THE CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES TO PROVIDE ADEQUATE FUNDING TO
IMPROVE MEN'S HEALTH IN THE UNITED STATES.

(TEXT OF BILL BEGINS ON NEXT PAGE)

1 To the Congress of the United States of America:

2 Your memorialist respectfully represents:

3 Whereas, during the 110th Congress, legislation to establish an Office
4 of Men's Health was introduced in the United States House of Representatives,
5 where it had the sponsorship of 53 members; and

6 Whereas, during the 110th Congress, legislation to establish an Office
7 of Men's Health was introduced in the United States Senate, where it had the
8 sponsorship of one member; and

9 Whereas, risks to the health and well-being of America's men are on the
10 rise due to a lack of education, awareness and pursuit of preventive
11 screening and care; and

12 Whereas, while this health crisis is of particular concern to men, it
13 is also a concern for women regarding their fathers, husbands, sons and
14 brothers; and

15 Whereas, men's health is important to employers who pay the costs of
16 medical care and lose productive employees; and

17 Whereas, men's health is a concern to federal and state governments,
18 which absorb the enormous costs of premature death and disability, including
19 the costs of caring for dependents left behind; and

20 Whereas, the life expectancy gap between men and women has increased
21 from one year in 1920 to almost six years in 2002; and

22 Whereas, prostate cancer is the most frequently diagnosed cancer in the
23 United States among men, accounting for 33 per cent of all cancer cases; and

24 Whereas, an estimated 230,000 men will be newly diagnosed with prostate
25 cancer this year alone, and approximately 30,000 will die; and

26 Whereas, prostate cancer rates increase sharply with age, and more than
27 75 per cent of such cases are diagnosed in men age 65 and older; and

28 Whereas, the incidence of prostate cancer and the resulting mortality
29 rate in African American men is twice that in white men; and

30 Whereas, according to the Census Bureau, by the time men and women
31 reach age 65, the ratio of men to women reduces to 85 to 100; and

32 Whereas, studies show that women are 100 per cent more likely than men
33 to visit a doctor, have regular physician check-ups and obtain preventive
34 screening tests for serious diseases; and

35 Whereas, appropriate use of tests such as prostate specific antigen
36 exams and blood pressure, blood sugar and cholesterol screens, in conjunction
37 with clinical exams and self-testing, can result in the early detection of
38 many problems and increased survival rates; and

39 Whereas, educating men, their families and health care providers about
40 the importance of early detection of male health problems can reduce
41 mortality rates for male-specific diseases and improve the overall health and
42 well-being of America's men; and

43 Whereas, recent scientific studies show that regular medical exams,
44 preventive screenings, regular exercise and healthy eating habits can help
45 save lives; and

1 Whereas, establishing an Office of Men's Health is a possible method to
2 investigate these findings and take such further actions as may be needed to
3 promote men's health.

4 Wherefore your memorialist, the Senate of the State of Arizona, prays:

5 1. That the Congress of the United States equally appropriate funding
6 for men's health and women's health to improve the state of men's health in
7 the United States.

8 2. That the Secretary of State of the State of Arizona transmit copies
9 of this Memorial to the President of the United States Senate, the Speaker of
10 the United States House of Representatives and each Member of Congress from
11 the State of Arizona.